

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re U.S. Patent Application of )  
Stephen GOLD )  
Application Number: To be Assigned )  
Filed Concurrently Herewith )  
For: MANAGING DISK DRIVE REPLACEMENTS ON )  
MULTIDISK HEADLESS APPLIANCES )

Honorable Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to an examination on the merits, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please replace the below claims as follows:

11. (Amended.) The method as claimed in claim 6, further comprising the step of generating a unique digital disk signature; and  
writing said unique digital disk signature to said first data storage device and said second data storage device.

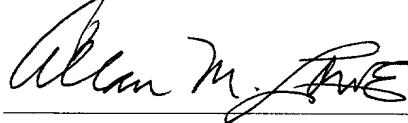
**REMARKS**

Applicant has amended the claims in order to remove the multiple dependencies contained therein and thereby reduce the basic filing fee. For the convenience of the

Examiner, Applicant is attaching pages of the claims showing the changes made. No new matter has been added to the application as a result of this amendment.

Prompt and favorable action on the merits of this application is earnestly solicited. Kindly direct any inquiries to the undersigned at the below-listed address and telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,



Allan M. Lowe

Registration Number 19,641

**LOWE HAUPTMAN GILMAN & BERNER, LLP**

1700 Diagonal Road

Suite 310

Alexandria, Virginia 22314

(703) 684-1111

April 26, 2001

Y T

**MARKED-UP VERSION SHOWING CHANGES**

30003759

-23-

8. The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein said step of re-setting said computer entity to a known state comprises:

5 checking whether a partition structure on said second data storage device matches an expected partition structure;

if said partition structure does not match said expected partition structure, then erasing said second data storage device and formatting said second data storage device into a known partition structure.

10 9. The method as claimed in claim 7, further comprising the step of:

restoring default application data from a partition area of said first data storage device onto said formatted known partition structure of said second data storage device.

15 10. The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein said known partition structure comprises a single partition.

20 11. The method as claimed in ~~any of claims 6 to 9~~<sup>9 e 9</sup> further comprising the step of generating a unique digital disk signature; and

writing said unique digital disk signature to said first data storage device and said second data storage device.

25 12. A data storage device comprising:

a data storage medium, said data storage medium pre-configured for storage of code data comprising:

30 a primary operating system;